



*TruEMU Night at  
the Detroit Pistons  
- pages 4 & 8*

# The Eastern Echo

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 | Volume 142, Issue 06

Serving EMU and Ypsilanti since 1881

## HAAB's Barrel House re-opens in downtown Ypsilanti to new, familiar faces

**Max Smith**  
*News Reporter*

For Jason Mitchell, the proprietor of HAAB's Barrel House, its been a circuitous path to downtown Ypsilanti.

Before Mitchell retired and got into distilling, he was an HVAC mechanic. That was why the belt pulley and driveshaft fans hanging over the bar and kitchen area caught his eye through the window.

"The fans were the only thing we could see, but it sold us on it," Mitchell said.

After his retirement, Mitchell's interest in distilling led to him owning and operating DISTILLERY Livonia alongside partners Katie Nelson and Mike Nelson. However, when circumstance had them looking for somewhere to relocate, they looked to Ypsilanti and found HAAB's Restaurant.

"We didn't know until we got more involved how intertwined HAABs is with the community," Mitchell said. "And when they were asking us what we were gonna do with it, that's when the idea came up; Why not save it?"

So, they decided to re-open for business under the name HAAB's Barrel House, breathing fresh air into the building that had served the community for 87 years from 1934 to 2022 while putting their own twist on

things.

The Barrel House has been working to bring back as much of the "old" HAABs as possible including some of the booths and other items that were auctioned off, but are also changing for a new crowd.

Some of the favorites from HAABs original menu are making a comeback in addition to the furniture. Former owner Mike Kabat helped them get in contact with some of the old suppliers, including the proprietary breeding for the fried chicken that had been served for 77 years. However, they're also putting a smoker they acquired from Michigan State University to work as they plan on marrying some of the items from their old restaurant together.

So far they've tried using their cold smoke and marinating process they use for their chicken wings on the fried chicken. The smoker has also allowed them the opportunity to experiment with new items like a brisket pizza and a smoked corned beef sandwich which they plan to add to the menu in the coming weeks.

The biggest change to the menu has been the addition of the vegan and vegetarian menu. Most of the meal items on the menu are \$15 or less, making it budget friendly.

They're also currently floating the idea of using one of the walls in the bar dining space as a "living gallery"



for local artists to display and sell their artwork. The Barrel House has also added a karaoke bar and offers a tasting

room where they'll have their own spirits under the "Leaky Still" brand. Haab's is also still looking to hire staff,

as they continue to open and expand their business.

## Eastern Michigan University professor Dyann Logwood's mission to mentor and inspire

**Colae Eason**  
*News Reporter*

A bright-eyed student visited Eastern Michigan University's campus in 1997, hoping to find information about attending graduate school and furthering her learning journey.

She walked into a small space which she assumed was a storage closet, and before she could turn around, was greeted by Rachel Brett Harley, the first undergraduate adviser in the Women's Studies department.

The potential student, not wanting to be a bother, let Harley know that she was just hoping to pick up a brochure in her quest for information about receiving a master's degree. Harley sat the student down and immediately got her signed up for a master's program in Women's Studies, where the student found out that Harley heard of her before through a friend.

That student grew to become the first African-American administrative director of the Women's Resource Center and a current associate professor of the Women's and Gender Studies Department at EMU, Dyann Logwood.

As a Ypsilanti native, Logwood became familiar with Eastern through her Upward Bound tutors and mentors who were students at the university.

Logwood attended the University of Michigan as an undergrad and received a Bachelor's degree in Women's Studies and Communication and Media Studies in 1997. Though her bachelor's degree reflects her current field of study, Logwood admits that she did not enter college intending to focus on either of her ultimate majors.

"I was focused on finding a career where I could make a lot of money," Logwood said. "So I decided business and finance were my best options,"

Logwood found herself more interested in her general education classes than her business and finance classes, she said.



*Courtesy of Dyann Logwood*

"I started to think, well, maybe I'm not a business and finance person," Logwood said.

Her interests seemed to align with classes that focused on activism and community building, which she was familiar with from high school.

"I always believed that when you go to college, you need to try new things and become a different person," Logwood said. "I soon realized that who I am is enough, and my college education would help me live more authentically."

After a conversation with friends who'd taken women's studies courses, Logwood decided that it was time for a change of pace.

"I needed to follow my heart," Logwood said.

Logwood changed her major, became active on campus as a member of student organizations catered to Black activism, and became a co-founder of the magazine Hear Us Emerging Sisters, or HUES, which grew into a national, multicultural women's magazine.

Logwood's love of teaching became fully realized when she took a course at the University of Michigan centered around educating students.

Logwood received hands-on training in a college classroom, constructive criticism, and an overall feel for the teaching profession through this course, she said.

Logwood recalled her time on campus being full of student life, with a large active student population who lived on campus.

She enjoyed experiencing her grad school classes with a variety of students from different backgrounds, beliefs, identities, and life experiences.

One of Logwood's mentors was the late Emeritus Professor of Communication, Media, and Theatre Arts and building namesake, Judy Sturgis Hill.

Logwood recalls Hill attending events on campus frequently, along with being a faculty-in-residence who lived in the First Year residence hall to support students in their transition to college life.

*continued on page 4*



# The Eastern Echo

The Eastern Echo serves the Eastern Michigan University and Ypsilanti-area communities as an independent student-operated newspaper. Founded in 1881 as The Normal News, The Echo distributes weekly printed editions on campus and throughout the surrounding community during the fall and winter academic semesters; and publishes year-round on the web. Contents are subject to copyright and may not be reproduced without prior written consent of the newspaper.

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## THE ECHO MISSION

The Eastern Echo informs the Eastern Michigan University and Ypsilanti community by highlighting newsworthy content in a fair, accurate and timely manner.

## HOW TO REACH US

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Print editions published Tuesdays from late August to early May are available in racks or on tables in all academic buildings on the EMU campus, and at dozens of businesses in the community.

Among those businesses are:





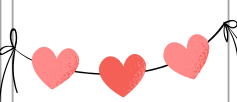

- Sweetwaters on Cross St
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- Domino's
- and more!

Want to have copies of The Eastern Echo delivered to your Ypsilanti business? Email advertising@easternecho.com!

## CORRECTIONS

The Eastern Echo corrects mistakes. If we got it wrong, we want to make it right. Errors should be brought to the attention of the Editor-in-Chief by email: editor@easternecho.com

# Weekly Calendar

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 11	WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 12	THURSDAY FEBRUARY 13	FRIDAY FEBRUARY 14	SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15	SUNDAY FEBRUARY 16	MONDAY FEBRUARY 17
<p>SCHOLARLY READING AND NOTE TAKING HALLE LIBRARY ROOM G-09 6 P.M. - 7 P.M.</p>  <p>KNIFE SKILLS 101 COMMONS WISE ROOM 3 P.M. - 4 P.M.</p> 	<p>PERSONALIZED BOOKMARK WORKSHOP HONORS COLLEGE ROOM 107 5 P.M. - 7 P.M.</p> 	<p>ROCKY HORROR PRE-SHOW SPONBERG THEATER 6 P.M.</p>  <p>ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW SPONBERG THEATER 7 P.M.</p>  <p>EMU DINING: DELIGHTFUL THE COMMONS 11 A.M. - 2 P.M.</p>	<p>HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!</p> 		<p>CAMPUS AND SYMPHONIC BAND CONCERTS PEASE AUDITORIUM 3 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.</p> 	<p>GROUP WEB EDITOR TRAINING ZOOM EVENT 10 A.M. - 12 P.M. AND 2 P.M. - 4 P.M.</p> 

# Scoop's Forecast

27° 9° Tuesday, Feb. 11

23° 14° Wednesday, Feb. 12

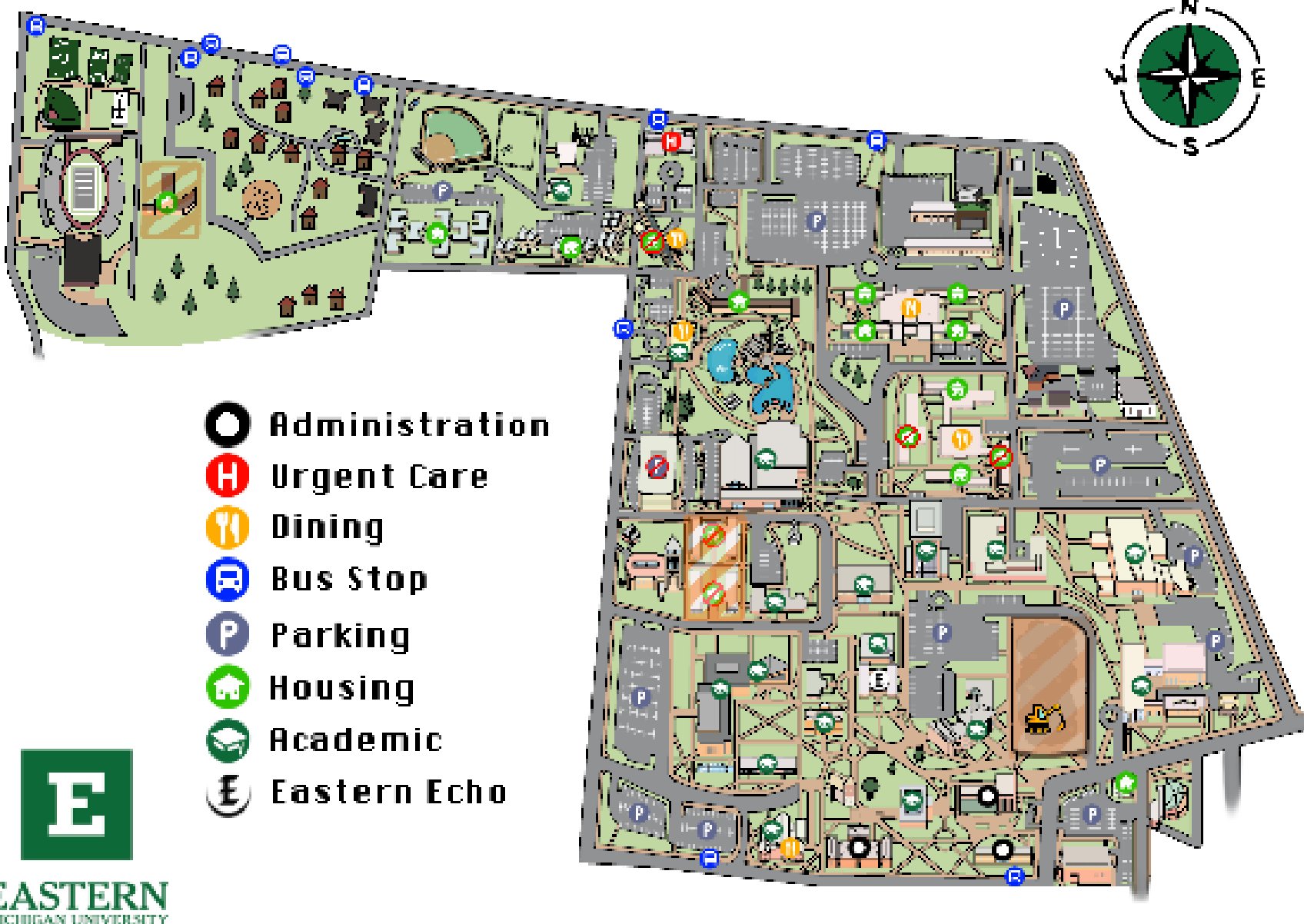
25° 15° Thursday, Feb. 13

27° 19° Friday, Feb. 14

32° 17° Saturday, Feb. 15

28° 15° Sunday, Feb. 16

31° 22° Monday, Feb. 17



# Your opportunity to get involved in Student Government is here

Quanzelle Wyatt  
News Reporter

Every winter semester, students have the chance to vote for their representatives in Student Government. These positions hold power, and impact the community in significant ways. The student government is an important part of college life on campus. Representatives can cast votes, influence new initiatives and more.

### What is Student Government?

Student Government, according to their website, is the representative body of all students, both on and off campus. They are also the voice of the student body and representation to the university administration, faculty, and board of regents. Most of the organization is made up of the Student Body Senate. The Senate is made up of 15 individuals. They work through committees and resolutions that work

to make students’ voices heard in the community. The other part of the government is the Executive Board. This consists of the President, Vice president, and various directors which act as chairpersons of their respective committees, and oversee initiatives. The government also has three focuses: advocacy, resources, and promotion.

### Election Timeline

Elections have officially started, with January 6 being the first day for electronic campaigning to begin. Here are the dates for Student Government elections as per their site:

**Feb. 3:** Applications and petitions for filing to run for President/Vice President and Senator are available online.

**Feb. 17:** 5 p.m. is the deadline for candidates to submit their applications and petition signatures to appear on the ballot to run for President/Vice President and Senator. These can be

sent to the email aaljarba@emich.edu. The referendum proposals and the signatures are also due on this day at 6 p.m.

**Feb. 19:** At 4:30 p.m., there will be a meeting for all the candidates that are considering running for office. The meeting will take place in room 352 of the Student Center. For those that cannot attend, the election commissioner will be available on Feb. 21 from noon-2 p.m. in room 342 of the Student Center.

**Feb. 24:** Active campaigning begins.

**March 16:** 11:59 p.m. is the deadline for candidates to submit their applications to run as write-ins. The names of approved write-ins will not show up on the ballot.

**March 19:** The Candidate Forum will be held at 5 p.m. in Student Center room 352. There is also an optional

meeting for candidates running as write-in candidates. The location is still being determined at this time.

**March 25:** The deadline for all candidates to submit campaign finance receipts to the Election Commissioner is 5 p.m.

**March 26:** At 8 a.m., voting begins. There will be an email sent to students notifying them about how to vote. All registered students can vote.

**March 27:** At 8 p.m., voting ends. After counting the votes, the candidates and media will receive the final numbers.

**March 29:** At 8 p.m., all candidate grievances must be submitted.

For updates on the student government elections, check back at *The Eastern Echo*.

# What's the move? Feb. 11 - 17

Carol Detary  
Staff Reporter

### Scholarly reading and note taking - Feb. 11

Join the Holman Success Center for its interactive reading and writing workshop. The class focuses on developing students’ scholarly reading and notetaking skills for academic course work. The event is scheduled from 6 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11, 2025, in Halle Library, room G-09.

### Knife Skills 101 - Feb. 11

EMU Dining and Registered Dietitian Beth Smith are teaching students all the tips and tricks for using knives safely and effectively. Signup is required to attend this even. Register through Signup Genius or by the Link Tree in the @EmichDining Instagram page. The event will take place in the Commons Wise Room from 3 to 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 11.

### Spread kindness and love: Personalized bookmark workshop - Feb. 12

The Honors College celebrates its collaboration with residents of St. Joseph Village by creating personalized bookmarks. Students in the Honors College can receive service hours by attending. The event is scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 12, at the Honors College, room 107 the Reception Hall.

### Rocky Horror PRE-Show - Feb. 13

In the pre-show event, meet the director behind the musical adventure. Audience participation is encouraged to learn the “Time Warp” dance and learning to use participation kits during the show. Free show tickets and participation kits will be provided for the first 100 student attendees. Complimentary food and drink will be provided as well. Reserve tickets online through Eagle Sync.

### The Rocky Horror Show - Feb. 13 - 16

Critics label Richard O’Brien’s “The Rocky Horror Show” as an out-of-this-world adventure. The campy musical comedy inspired the cult film classic. Tickets are available, and participation kits are for sale, through the university’s online ticket counter, or at the box office in the lobby of the Judy Sturgis Hill Building. The show is for mature audiences only. Showtimes include 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13 and Feb. 14. Other show times are 5 and 10 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15; and 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16.

### Delightful @ The Commons - Feb. 13

This event is the next installment in the Joyful series provided by EMU Dining. The Commons will be hosting activities, prizes and a special menu for all students. The event is from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 13.

### Campus and Symphonic Band Concerts - Feb. 16

Conductors J. Nick Smith and Ben Perche lead performances with the EMU Campus and Symphonic Bands in a Sunday concert at Pease Auditorium. The event is from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 16. The concert will be recorded live on the School of Music and Dance YouTube page.

### Group Web Editor Training - Feb. 17

Web Services in the Division of Communication is providing two training programs through Zoom to teach skills on updating a website page. The training is for those who are assignment management duties for their department’s or their area’s web pages. In the class, participants will learn to manage the content elements on their www.emich.edu sites, including how to add pages, save, and publish using the Modern Campus content management system. Registration is required to attend the Zoom; the event is from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m. Monday, Feb. 17.



## The Eastern Echo

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# Best Buddies program opens at Ypsilanti Community High School

Odelia Florusbosch  
News Reporter

On Jan. 15, 2025, Best Buddies Michigan announced they will open a new chapter of the Best Buddies program at Ypsilanti Community High School.

Best Buddies is an international non-profit organization founded in 1989 by Anthony Kennedy Shriver.

According to Lydia Goff, Best

Buddies’ Lead Program Manager for National Expansion, the organization aims to ensure individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities are included. The organization focuses on providing one-on-one friendships, family support, inclusive living, leadership development and integrated employment. Best Buddies is currently active in 46 countries.

Best Buddies works by connecting an individual with an IDD and an

individual without an IDD. These pairs are known as buddies.

At the high school level, Best Buddies chapters organize an event for all chapter members to get together around once a month. Buddy pairs are also encouraged to spend time together on a one-on-one basis regularly.

“The high school becomes more inclusive,” Goff said. “Whereas before [Best Buddies], maybe the Special Ed kids were sitting alone at lunch. Now their buddies are sitting with them.”

The Best Buddies chapter at Ypsilanti Community High School was formed after a local mom reached out to Goff about starting a Best Buddies chapter at her son’s high school.

To start a new Best Buddies chapter at a high school, the school’s principal must approve the new chapter, and staff members at the school need to agree to be advisors for the program. The Best Buddies chapter at Ypsilanti Community High School is the fifth high school chapter in Michigan.



# Students, alums come together for TruEMU Night at the Detroit Pistons

AnnaBelle Favre  
News Reporter

On February 6, 2025, Eastern Michigan University partnered with the Detroit Pistons to host TruEMU Night, a special event designed to bring together EMU students and alumni for an evening of basketball.

The Division of Communications at EMU and the Alumni Association have been organizing TruEMU nights for over a decade, with this year marking twelve successful years of connection and community-building.

Walter Kraft, Vice President of the Division of Communications at EMU, reflected on the evolution of the event.

“We’ve been hosting these events for a long time,” Kraft said. “It started with just Detroit Tigers games, but now we do Red Wings, Pistons, and Tigers games, and this summer we are introducing a TruEMU night at a Lansing Lugnuts game.”

TruEMU Night serves as a fun and interactive way for students and alumni to connect over a shared love of sports. This year, 426 tickets were sold for the event, starting at \$30 each. Attendees enjoyed not only a seat in a dedicated EMU section but also received a limited-edition hoodie that was exclusive to the event.

The Alumni Association’s events are designed to help EMU graduates stay connected with the university community long after they’ve graduated.

Ariana Strzalka, Marketing Specialist at the Division of Communications, emphasized the importance of these gatherings.

“Events like this are so good to get alumni together and join with students in a non-academic setting,” Strzalka said.

This year also marked the first social event hosted by the Alumni Association



AnnaBelle Favre/The Eastern Echo

before the game. At Elephant and Co., alumni gathered to reconnect, share memories, and catch up on each other’s lives since graduation.

The excitement began before the game with a thrilling performance by the Eastern Michigan University Dance Team. They dazzled the crowd with an energetic new routine and the iconic EMU fight song. Swoop, the EMU

mascot, added to the fun by performing a cartwheel and impressively jumping into the splits, bringing smiles to fans of all ages.

During the game, Eastern students and alumni were able to chat, get to know each other, snack on their favorite stadium food, and watch the intense Pistons vs. Cavaliers game. After four quarters of intense back and forth

scoring, the Cleveland Cavaliers pulled out a win with 118 points, closely followed by Detroit’s 115.

Once the game started, the arena buzzed with energy. Students and alumni mingled, enjoyed stadium snacks, and cheered on the Detroit Pistons as they faced off against the Cleveland Cavaliers. The game was a thrilling back-and-forth battle, with

the Cavaliers ultimately edging out the Pistons with a 118-115 victory.

TruEMU Night at the Detroit Pistons was not only a celebration of basketball but also a testament to the strong community spirit at Eastern Michigan University. The night proved to be a great success, uniting current students with alumni in a fun, engaging environment.

*Photo gallery on page 8*

## Alum Jenita Moore joins EMU's board of Regents

Max Smith  
News Reporter

When Jenita Moore first moved to campus at Eastern Michigan University, she knew her life was changing.

She’d chosen Eastern partially out of financial necessity, but also because she believed that it would allow her to stay close enough to home to feel safe, but far enough so she could live her own life. She made lifelong friends with her room and suite mates from her freshman year in 211 Hill Hall.

“We made a pact that we would always stay together,” Moore said. “We moved all around Hill Hall but we stayed together. I still talk with all of them too, even 20 some odd years on.”

In her time at EMU, Moore was a vocal figure on campus, joining the Black Student Union and the Delta

Sigma Theta Sorority, involving herself with the Black Greek council. One thing that most influenced her in her time at Eastern was the discussion around changing the school’s mascot from the “Hurons” to the current “Eagles.” The dialogues between the University and the native speakers had a profound impact on Moore. By the time she graduated in 1993, the school’s mascot had changed, and so had she.

As a young African-American woman, she met a variety of obstacles, including the doubt of some of her professors and advisors.

“At the time, I guess it was very uncommon for someone like me to be trying to get that degree,” Moore said. “But I had other advisors and mentors that helped and worked with me so that I could change my minor and graduate with the degree I wanted to.”

After graduating with a bachelor’s

in public law and government, Moore worked as a county clerk in the 24th District Court in Allen Park until 1998. She then became the legislative director and office manager for State Representative Artina Tinsley Hardman in 1999. She served in that capacity for five years, simultaneously earning her master’s degree in public administration from Western Michigan University in 2004. While in Kalamazoo, she joked with her classmates that even though she was there to get her masters, she was really still an Eagle at heart.

In 2005, Moore joined the first female governor of Michigan, Jennifer Granholm, as deputy director of staff. In this role, Moore represented the governor’s office as it lobbied the state legislative body on public policy and other measures. She would also serve as a liaison to various state departments and agencies, and in 2008 became

senior policy and legislation advisor for the Michigan Department of Insurance and Financial services, where she stayed for over a decade.

During this time she would become vice president of EMU’s Black Alumni Association, serving for two years from 2014 to 2016 as secretary and parliamentarian. In 2015, Moore joined EMU’s Alumni Board of Directors, volunteering her time and energy to the board until 2021. In 2023, as Michigan state senator Sarah Anthony’s chief of staff, Moore communicated and coordinated with the community. Moore was on staff for Senator Anthony’s CROWN Act, which passed legislation that prevents the discrimination based on hair or hairstyle. In 2023, through her coordinating efforts, she helped to facilitate the funding for the construction of two sound barriers in Troy along I-75.

Moore became a legislative liaison for the Michigan Department of State in 2019, and has been serving as Governor Gretchen Whitmer’s Director for community engagement since Nov. 2023. Now after more than 25 years of service in the government and as a business owner, Moore is joining the EMU board of regents after Governor Whitmer’s appointment, and will serve an eight year term. Moore will be involved with the student affairs and educational policies committees, and will serve as an auditor alongside EMU president James Smith.

She plans to use the first year or so to get her feet under her, but she plans to use her term effectively.

“I think that I’ll be good by year three,” Moore said.

### Dyann Logwood - continued from page 1

Other stand-out faculty members that Logwood recalls are Sally McCracken and Robert Perry.

“I am so appreciative of all of the faculty and staff who took time out with me as a student because they didn’t have to,” said Logwood.

Logwood hopes that her students see her the same way that she and other students saw them, she said.

“[I hope that they see that] I try to get to know them, and support them in whatever they do,” said Logwood.

Logwood came to EMU with the hope of becoming a graduate assistant who teaches students while also being mentored during that process.

“Coming to Eastern provided me with the opportunity to have mentors who were willing to guide me through the teaching process,” Logwood said. “Individuals that I could watch and learn from,”

Teaching with someone as a graduate assistant gave her a new

perspective, Logwood said.

“I really grew to appreciate what it is to create your own curriculum and have your own teaching philosophy,” Logwood said.

Logwood appreciates how faculty in Women’s and Gender Studies have their own areas of expertise that influence the way they teach, with hers being activism, human rights, and mentoring.

Logwood has been the coordinator of the Annual Women of Color Feminisms and Leadership Symposium since 2017.

This year, community and campus leaders will be highlighted and will discuss issues around how to remain engaged and motivated while still focusing on their wellbeing, she said.

The symposium will take place in the Student Center Ballroom A, March 11 from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. and include a panel discussion, activity about coalition building, and networking opportunities in a safe environment,

according to Logwood.

Logwood is also the host of many mentoring initiatives across campus, including mentoring initiatives for undergraduate students, faculty, and local middle school students.

Logwood hopes to leave behind a legacy of mentoring and “paying it forward” at EMU.

“I want to be remembered for creating opportunities for faculty and staff to mentor and support all of our students and one other,” said Logwood.

She also would like to be remembered for finding resources for those in need and creating safe spaces for all individuals, said Logwood.

As someone who has lectured at many different places, including Wayne State University and Washtenaw Community College, Logwood has not only gotten to know students with different backgrounds and experiences, but she has enjoyed shaping her curriculum around meeting their needs, she said.

“Incorporating discussion of

resources that address student’s basic needs, well-being, and career goals into the course helps students feel less alone and more like members of a caring community,” said Logwood.

“When you’re on an academic journey, it is an individual journey, but it is so much nicer when you have support,” said Logwood.

Logwood’s proudest moments at EMU come from her students’ achievements, including job successes, academic successes, making positive changes in society, and more.

“It’s the individual accomplishments and the accomplishments that mean they are making the world better,” said Logwood.

Logwood is a firm believer in the importance of representation, she said.

“If you encounter individuals who come from a community similar to yours, it makes it easier to imagine yourself being successful,” said Logwood.

Representation is important on all levels, not just in the classroom, said

Logwood.

“Representation can come in the form of administrators within the K-12 field or the after-school professional staff,” said Logwood.

Logwood recalls a time when a student approached her to let her know that she looked to Logwood as a model of how to carry herself as a Black woman in a professional space.

“She’d never had a black teacher before, and did not have any family members in college,” said Logwood.

This moment showed Logwood the importance of representation, whether intentional or unintentional.

“I’d never thought someone could be watching me to see what they should do in their career, profession, or a job interview,” said Logwood.

One of the reasons Logwood teaches is to encourage students to see themselves as successful, she said.

“Even if one person makes you feel that you can push a little bit harder or stay in the fight a little bit longer, to me, that’s everything,” said Logwood.



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# Nelson, Terry help Eastern snap 3 game skid against Old Dominion



Courtesy of EMU Athletics

**Caleb Henderson**  
*Sports Reporter*

It was a tale of two halves for the Eastern Michigan men’s basketball team against Old Dominion. The Eagles got off to a fast start in the first half, boasting an early 15-7 advantage and looking like they would run away and hide against their first non-conference foe since December. However, a cold shooting spell marred the rest of the period for Eastern Michigan, notably shooting 2/11 (18.2%) from three-point range and watching Old Dominion cut their

lead down to three heading into the halftime break. That’s when the Eagles made a notable change to their approach in the second half: feed Da’Sean Nelson (Toledo, Ohio/Robert S. Rogers/Kilgore College/DePaul) in the paint, and watch good things happen. “He [Nelson] scored inside and sprayed it out for three’s, he created a lot of offense just playing through him out of the post,” head coach Stan Heath said about the way his team played in the final frame. The results were almost immediate: Eastern Michigan went from shooting 42.3% (11/26) from the floor in the first

half to 58.3% (14/24) in the second half, with Nelson, as mentioned above, contributing 17 critical second-half points and 22 total on the day. This comes with an efficient 61.5% (8/13) shooting percentage from the floor. Other notable scorers for the Eagles included the usual suspects: Jalen Terry (Flint, Michigan/Beecher/Oregon/DePaul) added 18 points, including a pair of crucial three-pointers down the stretch to help put the game away; Christian Henry (Chicago, Illinois/The Skill Factory/Panola College) scored 13 points, most of which came from the free-throw line late; and Jalin Billingsley (Cleveland, Ohio/Lutheran

East/Georgetown) scored 12 points while shooting a perfect 4/4 from the field. With the win, Eastern Michigan snapped its three-game losing streak and improved its record to 11-12 (4-6 MAC) in its final non-conference test, while Old Dominion fell to 11-14 (7-5 SBC) for the year. Next time out, the Eagles will resume MAC action with only six games remaining before the end-of-season conference tournament. This Wednesday at 7 p.m., they will face Ball State on the road. Viewers can stream the game live on ESPN+.

# Eagle Sports Tips & Tales: Feb. 11-17

**Elena Davis**  
*Sports Editor*

Get ready for an action-packed week as Eastern Michigan athletics charges into mid-February with an exciting mix of matchups, tournaments, and games!

**Men’s Basketball at Ball State**  
The men’s basketball team will travel to Muncie, Indiana, on Feb. 11 to face Ball State at 7 p.m. This conference game is pivotal, as both teams aim for a crucial win in the MAC standings.

**Track & Field at Grand Valley State University Big Meet**  
On Feb. 14, the men’s and women’s track & field teams will compete at the prestigious GVSU Big Meet in Allendale, Michigan. This all-day event will bring top athletes from across the region, and the Eagles are ready to show off their speed and skill.

**Baseball vs. Pittsburgh**  
The baseball season kicks off on Feb. 14 at 1 p.m. in Port Charlotte, Florida, with a matchup against Pittsburgh. The Eagles will look to set the tone for their season with a big win in this early-season non-conference battle.

**Tennis at Cleveland State**  
On Feb. 14, the tennis team will travel to Cleveland, Ohio, to play Cleveland State at 2 p.m. This non-conference matchup will test the Eagles’ court skills and set the stage for an exciting season ahead.

**Gymnastics at Central Michigan**  
The gymnastics team will face off against Central Michigan at 6 p.m. on Feb. 14 in Mount Pleasant. Expect high-flying routines and fierce competition as the Eagles look to continue their strong season on the road.

**Swimming & Diving at Michigan First Chance Meet**  
The swimming and diving team will compete at the Michigan First Chance Meet in Ann Arbor from Feb. 15 to 16. This is a key event for EMU, as they look to close out the month with strong performances in one of the region’s top competitions.

**Men’s Golf at Gator Invitational**  
The men’s golf team will be in Gainesville, Florida, for the Gator Invitational on Feb. 15. This all-day event will showcase some of the best golf talent, and the Eagles are set to bring their best to this competitive field.

**Women’s Basketball vs Ball State**  
The women’s basketball team returns home at 1 p.m. on Feb. 15 to face Ball State. With a strong crowd behind them, the Eagles will look to defend their home court and keep their MAC title hopes alive.

**Men’s Basketball vs Toledo**  
The men’s basketball team will follow up the women’s game with a crucial 3:30 p.m. matchup against Toledo. Both teams are fighting for postseason spots, making this a crucial game as the season heads into its final stretch.

**Baseball vs. Pittsburgh**  
The baseball team will play a second game against Pittsburgh at 1 p.m. on Feb. 15 in Port Charlotte. This back-to-back game gives the Eagles an excellent opportunity to strengthen their season early on with another key victory.

**Lacrosse at Notre Dame**  
The lacrosse team heads to South Bend, Indiana on Feb. 15 for a 3 p.m. contest against Notre Dame. This will be a tough test for the Eagles, but they’re ready to battle one of the top teams in the region.

**Baseball vs Pittsburgh**  
The baseball team will play a noon game in Port Charlotte on Feb. 16 to close out its series against Pittsburgh. With a chance to finish strong, the Eagles will look to take home the series win in this exciting final matchup.

**Tennis vs Butler**  
The tennis team returns to Ypsilanti on Feb. 16 for a 2 p.m. match against Butler. It’s a perfect opportunity for the Eagles to show their skill and aim for another big victory on their home court. Stay connected with The Eastern Echo for the latest scores, highlights, and updates on EMU athletics.



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# Senior Swim Night at Michael H. Jones Natatorium

**Jack Monk**  
*Sports Reporter*

The Eastern Michigan University swimming and diving team celebrated its Senior Night at the Michael H. Jones Natatorium, closing the home season with a meet dubbed “The Last Mission.” The event was a special send off for seven seniors: Olivia Clarino, Ashley George, Rebekah Knapp, Kiersten Russell, Madelyn Sursi, Abby Szadorski, and Ciara Wheeler. From fun-filled activities such as a Black Hole Pong game organized by the seniors’ mothers to a diving and synchronized musical chairs event

featuring the fathers, the night was about more than just competition.Āfit celebrated the team’s camaraderie and accomplishments. Race Results The meet opened with the 200 Breaststroke, where Emma Littrell took first place, and Tristen Mina in second and Madelyn Sursi in third. In the Women’s 200m Freestyle, Riess Estep finished at 1:07.47. The 50 Freestyle featured a competitive field, with Emma Littrell claiming victory in Heat 1. The Diver’s 50 Freestyle saw Megan Lupa take first place over competitors Taityn Speier, Rebekah Knapp, and Malia Maire.

Lucy Noble dominated the 100 Butterfly, securing the win in Heat 1. Kiersten Russell claimed victory in the Women’s 100 Backstroke with a time of 24.92 seconds, while Rebekah Knapp won Heat 2 with a time of 28.90. The 100 IM was another strong race, with Emma Littrell emerging victorious among a competitive lineup. In the Women’s 50-yard Freestyle, Nehir Oz took the top spot with a time of 28.83. The 100-yard Backstroke saw Tristen Mina win Heat 1 with a time of 31.20. The 50 Butterfly and 100-yard Breaststroke followed, with Siporah Sang claiming victory in the second

breaststroke heat, finishing in 1:17.07. Relay Events & Grand Finale The team relays added an extra level of excitement to the evening. In the 200 Free Relay, the Ali Kudo, Riess Estep, Taityn Speier, and Katie Shoen team secured first place with a time of 1:52.49. With the last home meet of the season over, the Eagles are now focusing on the remainder of the season. Follow The Eastern Echo for updates on upcoming meets, games, and competitions to stay tuned for continued coverage of Eastern Michigan athletics.



# 5 lovely fiction books for this Valentine's Day

Frank Remski  
Review Columnist

For this Valentine’s Day, love is in the air and between the pages of these five book recommendations.

**Opinion** Though one may immediately think of romance for Valentine’s, these stories cover a wider range of love; romantic, platonic, and complicated.

**“Emily Wilde’s Encyclopaedia of Faeries” by Heather Fawcett**

This was a notable romance from the in-vogue genre referred to as “cozy fantasy.” The book followed the scholar Emily Wilde, who lived in a fantastical version of 1909 where faeries were real. While studying faeries in the Norwegian village Hrafnsvik, Ljosland, she fell in love with her academic rival Wendell Bambleby.

“Emily Wilde’s Encyclopaedia of Faeries” struck a great balance between romance and fantasy. Wilde and

Bambleby had charming banter and yearning as they shifted from a rivalry to a romance. Those who enjoy faeries being strange and mysterious are also in for a treat in “Emily Wilde” and will end up wishing they could major in faeries in real life.

**“This Is How You Lose the Time War” by Amal El-Mohtar and Max Gladstone**

By far the strangest book on this list, “This Is How You Lose the Time War” was hard to describe. It followed two agents on opposite sides of a time travel war, finding unlikely love amongst each other through fantastical letters.

The world of “This Is How You Lose the Time War” was nonsensical, leaning into the weirdness of time travel and the multiverse. Though it might be confusing, it was vividly imaginative. At its core was a deeply moving, queer love story between two women. The agents grew a deep, longing, and poetic connection with each other, showing love can bloom even seemingly-impossible places.

**“Love in the Big City” by Sang Young Park**

First published in South Korea and translated into English, “Love in the Big City” followed the young adulthood of Young, a gay writer living in Seoul. The novel focused on his complicated relationships with his family, friends, and romance.

“Love in the Big City” was about how difficult relationships are to navigate in one’s 20s, particularly when struggling with building a career and having a queer identity. The book was written in a snarky way that handled heavier subject matter with wit. The overall drama of the novel hit close to home.

**“Loveless” by Alice Oseman**

“Loveless” was a coming out story for aromantic and asexual people. It followed Georgia, a college girl who had never been in love, as she questioned why. Throughout the story, she discovered she was aromantic and asexual.

Most people know of Alice Oseman through the webcomic-turned-Netflix-series “Heartstopper.” Oseman has a great collection of young adult coming-of-age stories, most of them centering queerness. “Loveless” was one of the highlights among them. It was a touching, personal story which despite its title, was full of love- just not romantic- showing how friendship can be just as fulfilling.

**“Raybearer” by Jordan Ifueko**

A West African inspired, young adult fantasy novel, “Raybearer” followed Tarisai, a teenage girl with a magical purpose, who makes the Crown Prince love her, and then kill him. Tarisai traveled to the capital and became a part of the prince’s council, torn between loyalty to her new friends and her fate.

Although there was a great romance in “Raybearer,” that was not the main focus. Rather, the book was about love in general, particularly found family. Though one would expect the prince to be Tarisai’s love interest, he was

not, but they had a lovely dynamic nonetheless. As cheesy as it might sound, “Raybearer” was about the power of friendship. No, literally, the prince’s council had magical powers due to their platonic love of each other.

These recommendations have shades of multiple forms of love for however you are spending Valentine’s Day. Whether you’re spending the day reading, treating yourself to some new books, or getting them as a gift for a loved one. There’s a little something for most people, though of course it would be impossible to cover every shade of love with only five book recommendations. These books also all clearly had another type of love in them, and that was the authors’ clear love for storytelling.

Frank Remski is a film and theater reviewer for The Eastern Echo. He is majoring in media studies and journalism and minoring in public relations. He has worked for The Echo since summer of 2023 and has written both news stories and opinion pieces.

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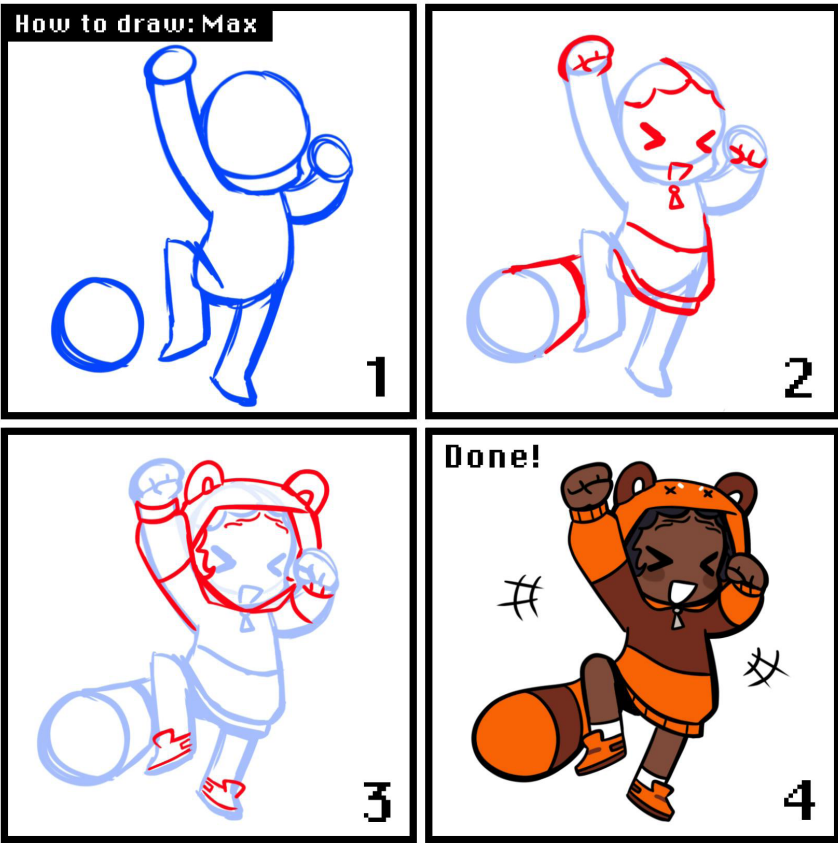
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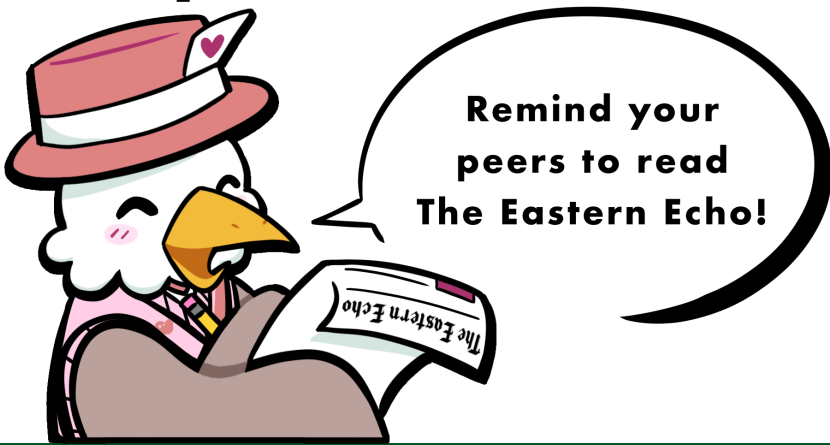
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The Echo Newsletter!



# TruEMU Night with the Detroit Pistons

*A photo gallery by News Reporter, AnnaBelle Favre*

